

## Today's Topics:

ARRL 80: PART 97 & STATION I.D.  
best deals on equipment?  
callsign database????  
Earthquake in SF!!!  
Field Day... OK... A proposal:  
How Much Good Does Ham Radio "Emergency Preparedness" Do?  
info on Crystal Radio kit or schematic  
PL259 connector assembly

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Date: 25 Oct 89 23:19:50 GMT

From: shelby!portia!jessica!paulf@eos.arc.nasa.gov (Paul Flaherty)

Subject: ARRL 80: PART 97 & STATION I.D.

In article <6870@hubcap.clemson.edu> bjb@hubcap.clemson.edu (BJ Backitis ) writes:

>If operating a club station, such as WD4EOG (Clemson Univ. ARC), how  
>does operating as control operator work? If I sign as WD4EOG, are my  
>privileges limited to my OWN call (and do I need to give my own call  
>in that case), or those of the station trustee? Or should club calls  
>only be given as information, to tell the station you are operating,  
>but officially id-ing using your own call...

If you are fortunate enough to have a club call, here's how it works:

1. The privileges of the club license are those of the trustee; for example, the trustee of W6YX is W2FRT, who has an advanced class license, so W6YX has advanced class privileges.
2. If an operator has a license with privileges greater than the club license, s/he must include his/her call along with the club call when using privileges greater than the club license. For example, if WD80ML, an extra class licensee, wants to operate phone on 21.220, he must sign as "WD80ML operating W6YX".
3. Operators are limited to the privileges of their licenses, except when a control operator of greater privilege is present, at which time the "lesser" operator effectively becomes a third party, capable of using the control operator's privileges.
4. Finally, operators may use their own calls, operating portable. Some clubs (like W6YX) prohibit this.

Caveat - I am not a lawyer. Nor would I want to be one.

-=Paul Flaherty, N9FZX | "I asked for a dissertation topic, and for my  
->paulf@shasta.Stanford.EDU | sins, they gave me one."

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Date: 26 Oct 89 03:25:50 GMT  
From: att!cbnewsh!ron@uchvax.Berkeley.EDU (ron.saad)  
Subject: best deals on equipment?

Hi.

I'm planning a trip that includes stops in Taiwan, Hong Kong and Japan and am wondering if this would be a good opportunity to overhaul the shack.

Anyone have information on where the best prices are (compared to locally in the US) ?  
How about detailed info on duty rates for ham radio and general computer and electronic equipment ?  
Does it pay to buy there and schlep it back ?

Please respond by email and I will summarize.

Oh yeah - assuming it all works out I'll be going in a couple of weeks, so if you have any info for me, don't wait too long ...

Thanks much,  
73 de

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Ron Saad - WF2K

...!att!feathers!ron  
ron@feathers.ATT.COM

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Date: 26 Oct 89 00:37:35 GMT  
From: pilchuck!ssc!tad@uunet.uu.net (Tad Cook)  
Subject: callsign database????

James Washer asked if there was a way of finding out about ham calls before they arrive from the FCC.

You might try calling 312-234-8011, with modem set for 1200 bps and 8 bits, 1 stop bit and VT-102 emulation. This is a free service from the Callbook that lists any new or updated info that is not in the current Callbook or Callbook Supplement.

The info is only put in a couple of times per month, so it may

be possible to receive a license before it appears here.

It is useful for QSLing someone who is not yet in the book, or who has changed addresses and the current book doesn't show it yet.

73,  
Tad Cook  
tad@ssc.UUCP  
KT7H @ N7HFZ

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Date: 26 Oct 89 00:48:45 GMT  
From: pyramid!leadsv!esl!esl.ESL.COM!dml@decwrl.dec.com (Denis Lynch)  
Subject: Earthquake in SF!!!

I forgot one significant point in my last posting: by the weekend the "old reliable" trained folks were \*BURNED OUT\*. They were therefore getting over-involved, over-long-winded etc.

\*If\* they had had adequate backup of well-trained workers, they could have gotten some sleep, and things would have sounded a bit cleaner.

One more reason for a trained corp. I hate to think what things would sound like if this had been a \*really\* big one. With so few skilled communicators, the good ones from the whole area would have gotten burned out! There would be much more communication needed because standard facilities would be longer in coming back, and a wider area would need ongoing operations. (As it was, areas like Cupertino, Sunnyvale, Mountain View, Palo Alto, etc. were able to make resources available to harder-hit areas like Los Gatos and Santa Cruz.) On the flip side, I guess, fewer of us would have had to be back at work!

I also forgot to add to my last posting  
73, Denis N2TI

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Date: 26 Oct 89 00:11:00 GMT  
From: mirror!frog!john@CS.BU.EDU (John Woods)  
Subject: Field Day... OK... A proposal:

[I've re-ordered the points he made to rebut in a more logical order]

In article <7880084@hpfcdc.HP.COM>, perry@hpfcdc.HP.COM (Perry Scott) writes:  
> I've only participated in one field day. As an outsider, it seemed  
> strange that field day was:

> o you get points for putting out marginal signal (sorry QRPers) that  
> hardly anyone can hear.

If you are running from a 2KW generator, you can run one 1KW station or 10 100W stations. When your generator runs out of gas, solar power will let you run a QRP station--period. If you can't communicate with one tube tied behind your back, how are you going to manage when Nature ties it there for you?

> o home stations are frowned upon. (In a real emergency, we all run to  
> the nearest mountaintop, where the emergency isn't ?)

Many classes of emergencies happen away from populated areas (forest fires, plane crashes, etc.). Knowing how to set up a field station is valuable. Moreover, consider the damage from Hugo (or the REAL "big one" when it finally hits San Francisco) -- there may not \*be\* any homes left to have a nice, cozy station in.

> o the antenna systems and radios are usually commercially-made.  
> (real hams roll their own stuff, right ?)

Perhaps Field Day needs a new category for radios soldered together out of junk television parts the morning of Field Day (I'm not quite kidding). However, for emergency preparedness, simply having spare radios in a safe corner of the local ham club is more likely to be a winner than secreting broken TV sets around the local area... :-) (Note that one antenna I used during a Field Day was a 1000' chunk of wire thrown down the side of the mountaintop we were at. It may not have been the most efficient possible antenna, but it worked \*real\* well. I suppose the WIRE was commercially-made, but...)

>

> o done in the summer. (no emergencies happen in the winter, right ?)  
> o the exact start and stop time are known. (planned emergencies ?)

Hey, real disaster-relief agencies plan their simulations ahead of time! (Ah, I remember the time someone got up at the BEARS club and announced "There will be a disaster at the beginning of next month...") However, there has been a proposal kicking around rec.ham-radio for a spontaneous Field-Day-like thing, which might be a very interesting idea.

> o more social event than communications (we hams do like to yak...)

What, you should get an extra multiplier if you didn't enjoy yourself? Most hams do it because it IS a fun hobby -- the ability to be useful once in a while is gravy.

Field Day is not a carefully designed emergency preparedness exercise. However, when a disaster does hit, a lot of FD operators will be able to think "Well, gee, now what do I do?", and somewhere, in the dim dark

recesses of their brains, the training Field Day and other contests gives them will nudge forward and help out.

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Date: 25 Oct 89 21:53:21 GMT  
From: pyramid!leadsv!esl!esl.ESL.COM!dml@decwrl.dec.com (Denis Lynch)  
Subject: How Much Good Does Ham Radio "Emergency Preparedness" Do?

Just to add one point to Steve's excellent observations: I'll bet you didn't start hearing the "overhead" communications until the real "emergency" situation was over. Because you probably weren't listening in the first hour or two.

My experience with the earthquake disaster here was that by the weekend, much of the communication was ham radio logistics rather than real emergency traffic. But that isn't our fault, really. The main reason for this was that the Red Cross etc. were able to ask for (and get) all the support they wanted from us, even if they didn't really need it. That's probably the way we want it to be: we want them to always want to come to us, not to hesitate because we might get uppity or cut them off later.

In contrast, \*all\* the traffic I heard in the first couple of hours had to do directly with the emergency, and was extremely well organized and coordinated. All of Steve's points apply to what I heard.

Sure we got help from everybody with a radio, and that's great. But it only worked because there were people who knew what to tell them to do. And they didn't all come out Tuesday nigh!

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Date: 26 Oct 89 01:26:08 GMT  
From: zephyr.ens.tek.com!tektronix!sequent!ccssrv!sterling@uunet.uu.net (Sterling Huxley)  
Subject: info on Crystal Radio kit or schematic

As a Christmas present I thought I would give my nephew a crystal radio kit. I've looked around and can only find a cheap kit from Radio Shack. I haven't been able to find any schematics either.

Does anyone know where a reasonable kit can be purchased?  
Or, a reference to a schematic might help.

Thanks,

Sterling Huxley  
...!tektronix!sequent!ccssrv!sterling

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Date: 26 Oct 89 01:01:31 GMT  
From: pyramid!leadsv!esl!esl.ESL.COM!dml@decwrl.dec.com (Denis Lynch)  
Subject: PL259 connector assembly

There was a series in Hints and Kinks in QST a year or so ago on this very subject.

The keys I've seen missed in this discussion are:  
Use a BIG soldering iron (100W or so). That gets the connector heated up without taking so long that the cable melts.

PL259's are not intended to be re-used. You can get them cheap enough that is really isn't worth the trouble. (Obviously this means going to hamfests, flea markets, surplus stores/catalogs etc. But you should be able to get a PL259 for under a dollar. Why fool around with re-using it at that price? Just cut the sucker off and start over.)

73, Denis N2TI

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End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #807  
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